

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 ACDA-07 OMB-01 IO-13 /077 W
-----052103Z 069569 /63

R 051434Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5578
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, IS
SUBJECT: SHLOMZION HOLDS A CONVENTION

1. SHLOMZION HELD ITS FIRST CONVENTION APRIL 4 ON A BARREN SLOPE OUTSIDE OF MA'ALEH ADUMIM, AN INDUSTRIAL SITE LOCATED BETWEEN JERUSALEM AND JERICHO ON THE WEST BANK. THE 600 DELEGATES MET IN PICNIC FASHION TO HEAR THE PARTY'S FOUNDER, GENERAL (RES) ARIEL SHARON, SPEAK OF THE NEED OF A "GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY, TO INCLUDE ALL THE GROUPS CONCERNED MAINLY WITH ERETZ YISRAEL" AND TO ELECT HIM PARTY CHAIRMAN AND FIRST ON ITS KNESSET LIST. THE CONVENTION ALSO NOMINATED 34 OTHER CANDIDATES FOR THE KNESSET WHO WILL DECIDE AMONG THEMSELVES THE ORDER OF THEIR NAMES ON THE LIST.

2. MEANWHILE, SHARON ADMITS THAT HE IS CONFERRING WITH THE LIKUD, PRESUMABLY ON THE SUBJECT OF A MERGER OR SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO

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PARTIES. SUCH DISCUSSIONS ILLUSTRATE THE PROBLEM HE IS HAVING IN CREATING A VIABLE PARTY. INDEED, DESPITE THE GIMMICK OF HOLDING HIS CONVENTION IN THE OPEN AND IN THE OCCUPIED AREA, SHARON IS HAVING DIFFICULTY MAKING A SERIOUS IMPRESSION ON THE ELECTORATE. SHLOMZION'S HIGH-WATER MARK SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN REACHED SHORTLY AFTER SHARON ANNOUNCED

ITS FOUNDING LAST NOVEMBER. THERE HAVE BEEN A
NUMBER OF RECENT DEFECTIONS FROM THE PARTY'S LEADERSHIP,
INCLUDING ONE ITS BETTER KNOWN NAMES,
BRIG. GENERAL (RES) YESHAYAHU BAREKET, HERETOFORE
THE PARTY'S POKESMAN.

3. INCREASINGLY SHARON APPEARS TO BE CONCENTRATING
ON POLICY TOWARD THE WEST BANK AS THE MAIN ISSUE OF
HIS CAMPAIGN--ILLUSTRATED BY THE CHOICE OF THE
CONVENTION SITE. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH
AN EMBASSY OFFICER SHORTLY BEFORE HIS RECENT
FUND-RAISING TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES, SHARON
EXPOUNDED AT LENGTH ON ISRAEL'S NEED TO RETAIN THE
WEST BANK IN ITS ENTIRETY. HE REPEATEDLY MAINTAINED
THAT THERE CAN BE NO WITHDRAWAL AND THAT ANY PRIME
MINISTER, "BE IT RABIN, PERES OR ANYONE ELSE," WHO
AGREES TO SUCH A WITHDRAWAL WOULD FIND THE AGREEMENT
IMPOSSIBLE TO IMPLEMENT.
DUNNIGAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LINE, PARTY MEETINGS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PARTY ALLIANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, IS, LIKUD, SHLOMZION
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